Unit 6 Key Terms

These terms relate specifically to your reading this week

**Feminism** – the philosophy that men and women should be politically, economically, and socially equal; organized activities on behalf of this principle

**Gender** – the behaviors and attitudes that a society considers proper for its males and females; masculinity or femininity

**Gender stratification** – males’ and females’ unequal access to power, prestige, and property on the basis of their sex.

**Glass ceiling** – the mostly invisible barrier that keeps women from advancing to the top levels at work

**Glass elevator** – the mostly invisible accelerators that push men into higher-level positions, more desirable work assignments, and higher salaries

**Matriarchy** – a society in which women as a group dominate men as a group; authority is vested in females

**Patriarchy** – a society in which men as a group dominate women as a group; authority is vested in males

**Sex** – biological characteristics that distinguish females and males, consisting of primary and secondary sex characteristics

**Sexual harassment** – the abuse of one’s position of authority to force unwanted sexual demands on someone